

STATE OF WASHINGTON
OFFICE OF PUBLIC DEFENSE
711 South Capitol Way, Suite 106,
Olympia, Washington 98504-0957

REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATIONS
OF ATTORNEY REPRESENTATION FOR INDIGENT PARENTS
IN DEPENDENCY AND TERMINATION CASES
RFQ1402

Conflict Attorneys for Permanency Initiative

The Washington State Office of Public Defense (OPD) Parents Representation Program (PRP) provides state funded attorney representation and case support services to indigent parents, custodians and legal guardians involved in child dependency and termination of parental rights proceedings. There is an anticipated increase in termination filings as the legislature has funded a Permanency Initiative to allow DSHS to file termination petitions on a backlog of dependency cases. OPD is requesting applications for attorney services in the following counties:

All PRP Counties: The impacts of the Permanency Initiative will affect counties differently. As need arises, OPD will need conflict attorneys to handle the increased caseloads in PRP counties. A full list of PRP counties may be found at <http://www.opd.wa.gov/index.php/program/parents-representation>.

Compensation will depend upon the size of caseload needed and the experience of the attorney.

Minimum Qualifications

The following minimum qualifications are required:

- ❖ Licensed member of good standing with the Washington State Bar Association.
- ❖ Ability to meet Washington State Supreme Court Standards for Indigent Defense in regards to dependency and termination cases. <http://www.opd.wa.gov/index.php/standards>
- ❖ Ability to meet OPD Parent Representation Program Standards for Attorneys. <http://www.opd.wa.gov/index.php/program/parents-representation/9-pr/99-prp-reports>
- ❖ History of providing excellent representation to clients.
- ❖ Able to communicate well with indigent clients; be familiar with RCW 13.34 and court rules pertaining to dependency and termination cases.
- ❖ Must maintain professional liability insurance for all acts which occur pursuant to the contract.

Application Procedure

Applications will be accepted until June 30th, 2014 or until filled. To apply, email a letter of interest demonstrating your qualifications, a resume, and three references. Letters of interest should be specific about applicant's ability to meet the OPD Parent Representation Program Standards for Attorneys. Letters of interest should also describe applicant's current contracts for public defense or other representation as well as existing caseload, specifying the number of your current dependency and termination cases, if any.

Send materials to:

Candace Martin, RFQ Coordinator

candace.martin@opd.wa.gov

Subject line: **RFQ1402**

Please address any questions to Candace Martin at the above email address.

OPD reserves the right to amend this Request for Qualifications and reserves the right to refrain from contracting with any and all applicants. This Request for Qualifications does not obligate the state of Washington or OPD to contract for the services specified here.